DEPARTMENT OF STATE

offensive weapons into Cuta. The first task should be to assure the nations of the western hemisphere against that threat. These nations, the Organization of American States, authorized the quarantine as an essential step in the achievement of that purpose.

Surely no one could fail to understand their insistence upon effective guarantees since the present crisisx was produced by secret action taken contrary to the most explicit assurances. Such guarantees should cover the further introduction of offensive weapons into Cuba, the mixa discontinuance of development work on existing sites, and UN observers to ensure that offensive weapons are not operational.

We do not believe there should be insuperable difficulties in reaching a * peaceful resolution of the problem if those responsible for the threat are prepared to remove it.

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